

subscriber on the first circuit to the called party on the second circuit, whereby the subscriber is telephonically linked to the called party without human intervention at the service center.

2 22. [new] The system according to claim 21 wherein the service center indicates an invalid call attempt if the direct inward dial call does not terminate within a predetermined period of time.

3 23. [new] The system according to claim 22 wherein the system presents an audio message to the subscriber in response to the invalid call attempt.

4 24. [new] The system according to claim 21 wherein the system indicates an invalid call attempt to the subscriber if the subscriber dials a number other than his direct inward dial number.

5 25. [new] The system according to claim 24 wherein the system presents an audio message to the subscriber in response to an invalid call attempt.

6 26. [new] A method for economically using differences in long distance tariff rates for international telephone service comprising (a) a subscriber to a telephone service dials a service center on a direct inward dial number assigned to the subscriber by the service, (b) the subscriber hangs up after a predetermined interval, (c) the service automatically calls back the subscriber at an assigned call-back number on a first outbound circuit, (d) the subscriber enters the number of the called ~~number~~ ^{party} on the first circuit, (e) the service automatically calls the called party on a second outbound circuit, and (f) the service automatically bridges the two circuits, telephonically connecting the subscriber to the called party.

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27. [new] A method as in claim 26 wherein the incoming direct inward dial signal from the subscriber is terminated if the subscriber dials a number other than his assigned direct inward dial number.

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28. [new] A method as in claim 26 wherein a prerecorded message is played to the subscriber if the direct inward dial number entered by the subscriber is other than his assigned direct inward dial number.

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29. [new] A method as in claim 26 wherein the subscriber is informed that it is an invalid call attempt if the subscriber does not terminate the direct inward dial call within a predetermined period of time.

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30. [new] A method as in claim 27 wherein the subscriber is also given a prerecorded message if the call is not terminated.

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31. [new] In a method for economically using differences in tariff rates for international calls by originating calls from a location having relatively lower tariff rates to a location having relatively higher rates, in which a subscriber calls a service located in a jurisdiction having relatively low cost outbound calls, the service calls the

subscriber back on an outbound circuit, the subscriber enters the number of the called party, the service calls the called party on a second outbound circuit, and the service

bridges the two circuits to telephonically connect the subscriber and the called party, the improvement comprising using direct inward dialing for the initial call from the subscriber to the service, and the subscriber hangs up before there is a charge for the call from the subscriber to the service.